

SOMETHING NEW.

ANNAPOLIS DIRECTORY,

OR

STRANGER'S GUIDE,

GIVING A

SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE FIRST SETTLEMENT OF THE ANCIENT
CITY, HISTORY OF ITS VARIOUS PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
INCLUDING THE

STATE HOUSE,

AND

Senate Chamber,

(WHERE GEN. WASHINGTON RESIGNED HIS COMMISSION,)

WITH AN

ACCOUNT OF THE DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS AND OFFICES, POR-
TRAITS, RELICS, &c., THEREIN :

GOVERNMENT HOUSE—ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE—NAVAL ACADEMY—
CITY HOTEL—COURT HOUSE—FARMERS' BANK—CITY
HALL—BALL ROOM—CHURCHES, of the different
denominations—TEMPERANCE HALL—
POST OFFICE, &c., &c.

THIRD EDITION.

By OWEN M. TAYLOR, OF ANNAPOLIS.

1865.

SOMETHING NEW.

ANNAPOLIS DIRECTORY,

OR

STRANGER'S GUIDE,

WITH A

SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE FIRST SETTLEMENT OF THE ANNIAPOLIS
CITY, HISTORY OF ITS FAMOUS BUILDINGS,
INCLUDING THE

STATE HOUSE,

AND

SENATE CHAMBER,

(WHERE GEN. WASHINGTON RESIGNED HIS COMMISSION)

WITH AN

ACCOUNT OF THE DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS AND OFFICES, FOR
THE ARMY, NAVY, &c. &c.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE-ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE-NAVAL ACADEMY-
CITY HOTEL-COUNT HOUSE-PARKERS BANK-CITY
HALL-SALE ROOM-CHURCHES &c. &c.
FARMERS-HOUSE-THURGOOD HALL-
POST OFFICE &c. &c.

THIRD EDITION.

BY OWEN M. TAYLOR, OF ANNAPOLIS.

1842.

#2.00

Med. Dept.
m.d.
XF131
T28

INTRODUCTION.

It is the purpose of this little work to act as a guide to Strangers visiting the Ancient City of Annapolis, on either business or pleasure. When it is remembered that this is the Metropolis of the State of Maryland—associated with whose history so many reminiscences of the past are centered and cherished, as it is, from its identity with the name of the immortal WASHINGTON and his Compatriots,—who can question the utility of such an enterprise?

Independent of giving a condensed outline of the early history of Annapolis, it is the intention of this little manual to act as a pleasant companion to the stranger—to conduct him through the various departments of the memorable old State House, and other buildings connected with the government, and introduce him to such mementoes of antiquity for which this time-honored Metropolis is so justly distinguished.

As the stranger is frequently at a loss to know what objects of interest to visit, it has been thought desirable, in order to render this little work as complete as possible, to take a passing notice of the Government House, Naval Academy, St. John's College, &c., &c.

In the compilation of this little directory, the author has consulted a work on antiquity, which *unfortunately*, has nearly become obsolete, and to which he is indebted for many items of information.

NOTES TO THE READER

— 1874

The great and increasing demand for this little *Companion to Strangers* and others, has induced the author to renew and enlarge it; and present to the public a *third* edition.

ANNAPOLIS,

The Capital of Maryland, received its name in 1708, in honor of Queen Ann, the then reigning monarch of England. As a testimony of its advancement, it could boast in 1745, the earliest and long the only newspaper printed in the colony. The first number of the "Maryland Gazette," for that was its name, was issued on the 27th of January, 1745, by Jonas Green, who had been appointed printer to the province in 1740. This ancient paper continued to be published by the descendants of its founder until 1839, in which year it was at length discontinued.

A printing press, however, had been established in the colony as early as 1726, for the purpose of printing the laws and public documents, which, prior to that date, had been done at Philadelphia by William Bradford.* The wealth of Annapolis is still evidenced by many of its venerable dwellings, bearing the mark of age upon them, yet displaying in their elaborate decorations the taste and resources of their original owners. She was in truth, at one period "The Athens of America."† It is situated on the south branch of the river Severn, thirty miles south of Baltimore, and forty miles east north-east from Washington, in latitude 38° 58' north, longitude, Washington City, 0° 31' east.

Its population is about five thousand. It stands on a peninsula formed by Acton's Creek on the South and Covey's Creek on the north; the heads of these two creeks being within half a mile of each other. Its greatest length is little more than a mile, and in breadth something more than half a mile. It covers an area of about an hundred and forty-three acres. The site of the city is one of great beauty, commanding an extensive view of the Chesapeake and the surrounding country, which exhibits a great diversity of landscape and picturesque scenery.

The appellation of the "Beautiful City" has often been applied to her, especially when clothed in nature's brightest livery.

Annapolis is the natal place of some of the most distinguished men America can boast of, and has the honor of being the native

*Holmes' Annals, vol. 1, p 539.

†Annals; McMahon.

place of five of the most beautiful and accomplished peeresses of our mother country.

This city is admirably adapted as a location for a *Naval Depot*, an institution which has long been desired by all classes of our citizens. Its central position, between the north and the south; its proximity to the seat of our National Government; its fine and commodious harbor, which gives it great commercial advantage—all combine to recommend it to the General Government as decidedly the best location in the Union for the site of such an institution. There is water, bold and extensive enough for all desirable purposes; and only seven miles from the mouth of the Severn, is the Round Bay, a beautiful sheet of water, which of itself presents a commodious and secure harbor for ships of war, and in every respect is an eligible location for a Naval Depot.

The Public buildings are the State House, the Treasury Department, the Government House, Court House, City Hall, City Hotel, Ball Room, Farmers' Bank of Maryland, Saint John's College, Naval Academy, &c. &c.

The State House.

Nothing less than a visit to the "*Ancient Metropolis*" could convey to the minds of strangers any conception of this most attractive building. It is situated on a beautiful elevation in the centre of the city. It has elicited alike the admiration of the citizen, the sojourner, and the stranger, for the beauty and magnificence of its structure, and symmetry of its proportions. It has recently, under an appropriation of the General Assembly, been greatly improved internally, besides being lighted throughout with gas, and heated by steam.

The main building is of brick, and the superstructure which surmounts it is of wood.

The height from the base to the top of the spire, is two hundred feet. From the platform of the dome, which is one hundred and thirty-five feet high, the spectator has one of the most delightful panoramic views to be found within the United States. It commands a view of nature in all the beauty of poetic scenery—the Ancient City—its environs—the adjacent country—the noble Chesapeake, and the Eastern Shore beyond it, for an extent of thirty miles around, breaks upon the view of the delighted eye.

The hill on which stands this noble edifice is enclosed by a neat and substantial granite wall, surmounted by a handsome iron railing, which is entered by three gates, one situated in front of the building, the second to the south-west, and the third to the north-east of the circle.

The main entrance to the building is through a portico of but modest pretensions, and opens into a spacious and most attractive hall, in which is had a view of the interior of the dome, the stucco work of which was made from material brought from Saint Mary's County.

On the right hand of the hall is the Senate Chamber. This room is judiciously and tastefully fitted up for the use of the Senators of our State. It is 34 feet by 40; it has a lobby and gallery for the accommodation of visitors. Persons of distinction are often invited within the bar of the Senate, where seats are provided for them. Portraits at full length of the distinguished Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Samuel Chase, William Paca and Thomas Stone ornament the walls. These gentlemen were the four signers of the Declaration of Independence on the part of Maryland; and were at that period all citizens of Annapolis, each of them in his day, filled various posts of honor and responsibility, and shared largely the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens. The first named gentleman was the last survivor of that illustrious band of patriots who signed the Declaration of American Independence.

There is also in this room a portrait of the "Hero of the Cowpens," the virtuous and excellent John Eager Howard, who has, with the rest of his compatriots, gone to the land of his fathers, there to reap the reward of an honorable and well spent life. In 1788, '89 and '90, Mr. Howard was Governor of Maryland. The first and last named portraits were painted by Mr. Sully, the others by Mr. Bordley—both native artists.

There is likewise in this room a magnificent picture of "*Washington resigning his Commission*," which has recently been completed under resolution of the General Assembly of Maryland. It was painted by Edwin White of New York.

This room is still more memorable as being the spot upon which was consummated the greatest act in the life of the greatest man of any age. It was here that Washington—the father of his country—after having rescued the American people from foreign dominion and usurpation, nobly laid down his authority on the altar of liberty—resigning his commission into the hands of Congress. And in this room, too, was ratified, by the same

Congress, the treaty of peace with Great Britain of 1783, recognizing our Independence. (In this connection it will not be amiss to advert to the following historical facts.)

General Washington, having notified the several States of his intention to resign his commission and retire to private life, hastened to Annapolis, where he arrived on the 17th of December, to consummate his purpose. He was met a few miles from the city, by Generals Gates and Smallwood, with the most distinguished citizens of Maryland, and escorted to the apartments prepared for his reception. His arrival was announced by salvos of artillery. He was greeted with an enthusiasm worthy of the venerable city, the seat of old colonial politeness, learning and splendor. The members of Congress honored him with a public dinner; at night the State House was illuminated, and a ball—the favorite amusement of Annapolis—given by the members of the Assembly, and attended by the beauty and fashion of the city and the State, and the most distinguished men of the confederacy. Addresses were presented to him by the legislature and the city authorities, to which he replied in his usual dignified and happy manner. Every one vied in doing him honor. All the preliminaries having been arranged, on the 23d day of December, 1783, in the presence of both Houses of the State Legislature, the Governor and Council, many military officers and a crowd of anxious spectators, the great chief entered this room (the Senate Chamber), where Congress was in session, and advanced towards the Speaker's chair. After a decorous silence of a few minutes, he addressed the President and Members of Congress, in a calm yet feeling and eloquent manner. When he had concluded, he delivered into the hands of the President that great commission, under which he had achieved the liberty and independence of America, recommending his companions in arms to the gratitude of his country, and his country to the care and guidance of the Almighty Ruler of heaven and earth. The President, on receiving the commission, testified to him, on behalf of Congress and the people of the United States, their gratitude for his long, glorious and persevering fidelity to his country, pledged to him, as the highest and noblest of earthly rewards, the love and veneration of present and future generations; and invoked the blessings of heaven upon his head. Then calmly, as if he had not just resigned the highest place in his country's gift, and broken the sword of his own power for its lasting good, unmoved by the weeping eyes and sorrowful

countenances that mourned his adieu—the great man, now truly greatest in heroism, retired from that hall, which had thus been consecrated for ever by this noble scene; and without one regret, he betook himself to the domestic seclusion of Mount Vernon.*

In the Senate Committee Room, adjoining the Senate Chamber, is a portrait of the elder Pitt, the friend of America. In this picture Lord Chatham is represented at full length, with decorations of emblematic figures, expressive of his noble principles. It was painted by Charles Wilson Peale (who was a native of Annapolis) while in England, and presented by him in the year 1794, to his native State.

On the left of the hall, immediately opposite to the Senate Chamber, is the Chamber of the House of Delegates. It was formerly of the same dimensions of the Senate Chamber, but has recently been considerably enlarged and neatly fitted up. It has an extensive lobby for the accommodation of spectators, but no gallery as heretofore.

Immediately in front of the hall of entrance, the Library is situated, and above the door is the "*coat of arms*" of the State. This apartment has also been recently remodelled and considerably enlarged, and will be the most brilliantly and elaborately ornamented apartment in the capitol. The shelving, alcoves, railings, &c., are of the best style of workmanship, richly painted and gilded; and the Library has three galleries, rising one above the other, and all stored with intellectual treasures. The Library is open daily (except Sundays) during the sessions of the Legislature and Court of Appeals, from nine o'clock A. M., till nine o'clock, P. M. Members of the Legislature and high functionaries of the government alone enjoy the privilege of taking books from the Library: but the members of the Legislature are in the habit of giving written authorities to their friends to take out books in their names. The Library looks out upon the western, northern and southern collonades, from which there is a magnificent scenery. It is calculated to contain at least forty thousand volumes. It has, under the fostering care of the Legislature, become valuable as a State Institution.

This portion of the hall was formerly occupied by the General Court of Maryland, and used as a hall of justice until 1804, when that Court was abolished. It remained unoccupied from

*McSherry, 318.

that period until the year 1834, when it was fitted up and appropriated to its present purpose.

At the termination of the public hall are two stairways—the one on the right leads by a flight of stairs to the State Department, directly over the Senate Chamber. This room was occupied, prior to the year 1838, by the Governor and Council. The executive business is here transacted by the Governor, Secretary of State, and Private Secretary. Several letters in the hand-writing of General Washington, carefully preserved and neatly framed, decorate the eastern wall. The room north of the State Department, formerly occupied by the State Library, is now the office of the Adjutant General. Opposite to the door of the State Department, a gallery leads to the dome of the building.

The stairway on the left of the public hall leads to the Court of Appeals Chamber, and Clerk's office connected therewith, and also to the old Chancery office, which occupies the west angle on the second floor. The court room and Clerk's office of the Court of Appeals, which are immediately over the House of Delegates, have recently undergone thorough repair—is judiciously and tastefully fitted up—presenting a handsome appearance. In this room is suspended a large picture, presenting a full length likeness of General Washington, attended by General Lafayette and Colonel Tilghman, his aid-de-camp—the continental army passing in review. In his hand he holds the articles of capitulation at Yorktown. This picture was painted by Charles Wilson Peale, in pursuance of a resolution of the General Assembly of Maryland.

In the rear of the building are two entrances; the one on the west leads to the committee rooms of the House of Delegates, and the other to the committee rooms of the Senate.

In a conspicuous place in the public hall is an *old* cannon—a relic of antiquity. It was presented to the State of Maryland, some years since, by Revd. Mr. Carbury, of St. Mary's County, and was taken from St. Mary's river—supposed to have been brought over by the first settlers. It is a great curiosity, being very unlike the cannon of the present day.

The Treasurer's Office.

Within the circle enclosing the State House, on the eastern margin of the hill, stands the Treasurer's office. This building is venerable as well as memorable, for having been the

legislative hall of the Provincial Government. In the larger room, the lower House, and in the smaller one, the upper House of Assembly sat for many years. Such accommodations contrast strikingly with those of the present day. From the State House and Episcopal Church circles, respectively, many of the streets radiate and intersect each other at convenient points. The plan is a peculiar and an agreeable one, when viewed from some prominent point.

The Record Office.

This building was erected under an appropriation of the General Assembly, at its session of 1858. It stands within the enclosure, on the north-eastern margin of the hill; is a very substantial fire-proof building, well calculated for the purposes contemplated—built of the best materials—the workmanship unsurpassed—and is 50 feet by 64. It is intended for the accommodation of the Comptroller of the Treasury, Commissioner of the Land Office, and keeper of the Chancery Records. A room is also provided therein for the ancient Records and documents belonging to the State. The State fire engine and apparatus are kept in the basement.

The Government House.

This mansion has recently undergone considerable repairs, which adds much to its external appearance, and to its convenience and comfort inside; it is now lighted throughout with gas. It is situated near the east entrance of the Naval Academy.

The main building was erected by Edmund Jennings, Esq., and was purchased from him by Governor Eden, when he presided over the province of Maryland, and by whom were built the wings and long room.

This edifice has a handsome court and garden, extending with the exception of an intervening lot, to the water's edge. From the portico looking to the garden, a fine prospect meets the vision. The building consists of two stories, and presents an extensive front. There are, on the lower floor, a large room on each side of the hall, as you enter, and several smaller ones; the saloon on the same floor is nearly the length of the house. On each side of the edifice are commodious kitchens, carriage houses and stables, with spacious lots. Towards the water, the

building rises in the middle in a turreted shape. It stands detached from other structures, and is altogether a delightful and suitable mansion for the residence of the Chief Magistrate of our State.

The Court House

Is quite a modern edifice, and stands on the south-west of the church circle. As you enter, there is a spacious hall, on each side of which are two commodious offices. The one on the right hand is occupied by the Register of Wills, the other by the Clerk of the Circuit Court. Immediately in the rear of the Clerk's office, is the Sheriff's, and at the end of the hall is the court room. This is a fine, spacious room, and well suited to the purposes to which it is appropriated. On the second floor are the jury rooms, Surveyor's office, and rooms used by the Commissioners of the County.

The front roof of the building, compared with the rear, exhibits the appearance of wings. It is enclosed by a brick wall, surmounted by a neat wood railing.

The City Hall

Is situated on Church street. It is a neat edifice, and contains a hall on the upper floor the whole length of the house, and is the place of meeting for the corporate authorities of the city. Rising from the roof is a belfry, and under the hall the fire engines and apparatus belonging to the city are kept. This apartment is also used as the city watch house.

The City Hotel

Stands at the corner of Church and Conduit streets, and has been in the occupancy of several individuals since its establishment, as such. The old building, as it is termed, originally belonged to and was occupied by Mr. Lloyd Dulany, as his residence. It is two stories high—the new building is three; and a large building of two stories has been added, extending back to the Duke of Gloucester street. The present worthy and enterprising proprietors have added greatly to its appear-

ance and comfort. This structure, with its appendages, covers a large space of ground. It is an excellent establishment, and in every respect well calculated for the comfortable accommodation of travellers and others who make it a place of abode or resort.

The Ball Room

Is on the Duke of Gloucester street, and is a spacious edifice. The dancing room is large and of elegant construction,—and when illuminated, shows to a great advantage. The eastern wall was decorated, up to a few years since, by a full length likeness of Charles Lord Baltimore, which by authority was removed to the Historical Society of the city which bears his name. Portraits of several of the former Governors of Maryland still adorn the walls. At the lower extremity is the supper room, which was formerly the revenue office of the province. At the upper end is a card room. In this room Genl. Washington attended many Balls. This building was used as our legislative hall during the erection of the present State House.

The Farmers' Bank of Maryland

Is situate at the corner of West street, fronting the Episcopal church circle. It consists of one story, and is of singular form externally, though the interior, particularly the banking room, is well calculated for the purpose for which it is intended. It may be truly said of this institution, that it has ever been, and still is, considered as sound and as safe as any other banking establishment in the country.

St. John's College

Now used as General Hospital, Division No. 2, Surgeon, G. S. Palmer, in charge, stands on an eminence at the termination of Prince George's street, and is a four-storied structure, including the basement, and has recently undergone considerable improvements. A more delightful situation was never appropriated

than this for its purposes. It is situated on the banks of the Severn, within the limits of the city, commanding, in every point of view, the most interesting and beautiful objects. The adjacent country is open and healthy; the contiguous grounds are sufficiently extensive for the advantages of exercise and amusements; and the fabric contains a variety of spacious and convenient apartments, recently erected for the accommodation of the professors and students.

The peculiar advantages to youth in being educated at this seminary, are numerous and evident. With respect to health, as far as a high and dry soil, with pure air, will contribute to its preservation, or restore it when impaired, few places can be put in competition with, and none can excel it. The sessions of the General Assembly, and the meetings of the Court of Appeals, and Circuit, are so obviously beneficial to those young men who may be called to the public service, or enter into the profession of the law, that no parent, especially a citizen of our State, should hesitate a moment to send his son, whom he desires to become eminent in any of the professions, to a place where he is the most likely to acquire those qualifications which will render him useful and distinguished as a statesman, or afford him the greatest chance of professional improvement.

The college, reen, in the revolutionary war, was used as the encampment of the French army, and also by the American troops assembled in the war of 1812. Traces of these encampments still remain, and render it an object of touching interest. Parts of it exhibit mounds raised to those who died in the service; and though 'no storied urn' designates the spot where the remains of any distinguished warriors repose—all being indiscriminately inhumed—yet the interest of their fate is undiminished by this circumstance, when we reflect that they died in the same glorious cause.

On the grounds, east of the College, stands a large forest poplar, the age of which is not known. It is highly probable that it formed a part of the forest which was growing when Annapolis was first settled, in 1649. Several years since it was accidentally set on fire. The occurrence excited as much interest in, and exertion on the part of our citizens to extinguish it, and save the old favorite tree from destruction, as if it had been one of the finest buildings of the city. It was truly pleasing to see the interest elicited and the delight manifested by many when the progress of the fire was arrested.

The Naval Academy

Which has temporarily been converted into General Hospital, Division No. 1, Sergeant B. A. Vanderkeif in charge, was founded in the year 1845, under the administration of Jas. K. Polk, President of the United States, Geo. Bancroft, Secretary of the Navy. It occupies an area of several acres, tastefully laid off. Since its organization the General Government has added much to its dimensions and appearance, by the purchase of adjacent lots.

A substantial brick wall encloses in part the school; the river Severn encloses the residue. On approaching this establishment by water, your admiration is elicited by a romantic and picturesque landscape, ornamented by handsome mansions—officers' and midshipmen's quarters, hospital, library, observatory, trees and shrubbery.

It is decidedly, in every respect, the most available location in the Union for the site of such an academy.

Churches.

The following are the churches of the city, and their locality, &c.:

EPISCOPAL.—About two hundred yards west of the State House, and nearly opposite the Farmers' Bank.—*Rev. James Davenport.*

CATHOLIC.—On the Duke of Gloucester street.—*Rev. Father Classens.*

METHODIST No. 1.—On the north side of the State House circle.—*Rev. E. D. Owen.*

METHODIST No. 2.—For the present at the Temperance Hall.—*Rev. Hamilton McNamar.*

PRESBYTERIAN.—On the Duke of Gloucester street.—*Rev. Isaac Patterson.*

AFRICAN, (METHODIST.)—On West street, in the suburbs of the city.—*Rev. Tilghman Jackson.*

Temperance Hall and Post Office,


The former is situated on the State House circle, opposite the new Record building; the Hall is used by the Sons of Temperance. The Post Office is immediately below, on the first floor—Thomas Ireland, Postmaster.

OWEN M. TAYLOR,
Justice of the Peace, Collector & Agent,

ALSO, REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER AND BALTIMORE SUN, &c., &c.

Annapolis, Anne Arundel Co., Md.

Having resigned his position as Recording Clerk in the Office of the Court of Appeals of Maryland, is now prepared to give his *undivided* attention to all business entrusted to him.

 From a successful experience of twenty-five years in the *Collecting Business*, Merchants and others having outstanding claims in Anne Arundel and the adjacent Counties of this State, will do well to place them in his hands.

Prompt Returns made—Best of References given.